



ENRAC Agenda

September 11, 2024 4:00 – 5:30pm

Attendees

Members: Michael Hughes, Deb Merchant, Kanchan Ojha, Jackson Rheuben, Jason Schindler, & Sydney Tamplin
Excused: Damilola Olajubutu
Staff/Guests: Sean McGuire, Benton County Staff

Welcome – Deb Merchant

4:00

- *Open Meeting*
- *Icebreaker Question – Jackson Rheuben. What is a major project you want to accomplish over the winter? Sydney will have question for October.*
- *Approved August Minutes*

Group Updates – Deb Merchant

- *Upcoming Events & Member Updates*

County's Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Climate Action Plan – Sean McGuire

Per the request by Members in August, Sean provided the annual presentation to Commissioners on Benton County's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions goal, annual emissions report, and a general review of the Climate Action Plan. Those materials can be found on the County's [Climate Action homepage](#). Members suggested that future presentations include tracking GHG reductions based on County expenditures.

Sustainable Materials Management Plan (SMMP) – Sean McGuire

Sean updated ENRAC on the SMMP process, next steps, timeline, and how the SMMP fits into the western Oregon regional waste management system. Both waste management and materials management systems are critical to the region's long-range efforts for sustainability. The County created an SMMP Task Force, and their Kickoff meeting will be October 21st.

Shift Together to Rural Areas – Sean McGuire

County Finance and BOC staff continue to explore Seeds for the Sol to enter rural markets & communities. Sean will update & share opportunities for ENRAC to engage.

Big Hairy Audacious Goals (BHAGs) – Deb Merchant

Deb started with sharing her process of listening, reading & learning about other communities making a positive impact in their communities. What are they accomplishing? And can we emulate this in Benton County. During the conversation, the following examples were highlighted:

State of Washington

<https://greenspace.seattle.gov/2024/06/city-of-seattle-awarded-nearly-3-2-million-to-support-residential-and-small-businesses-transition-from-fossil-fuels-to-clean-energy-efficient-appliances/>

Seattle

<https://greenspace.seattle.gov/2024/08/city-of-seattle-awarded-17-2-million-to-implement-building-emissions-performance-standard-support-multifamily-and-commercial-buildings-reduce-climate-pollution/>

Styrofoam

<https://ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/reducing-recycling-waste/plastics/2021-plastic-pollution-laws/expanded-polystyrene-ban>

How can Benton County emulate some of these ideas? Can they, considering authority, capacity, etc.? Sean stated that ENRAC should come up with research & intents. Then, let Sean explore internally to accomplish the task, even though not via the route initially intended.

Benton County Updates – Sean McGuire

Sean provided a brief overview on Benton County activities, initiatives, & priorities.

Adjourned

5:30